



CORDELL BANK, GULF OF THE FARALLONES AND MONTEREY BAY
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES
JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

ECOSYSTEM MONITORING – Decision Making Criteria
April 17, 2003

Criterion #1 – Site Benefits

Major	=	3
Moderate	=	2
Minor	=	1

Does using this strategy to address this issue have positive site benefits to natural resources/ecosystem, cultural resources, habitat protection, protection of biodiversity, or resolving user conflicts? If we make progress on this issue by using this strategy will it have major, moderate, or minimal site benefits? *For more insight on this criterion, please refer to the purposes and policies language excerpt from the National Marine Sanctuaries Act located at the end of this document.*

Criterion #2 – Complexity (and resources needed to resolve issue)

Low	=	3
Moderate	=	2
High	=	1

How complex is the development of this strategy and what would it really take in terms of resources to resolve the issue? Other items that contribute to complexity include:

- Number of sub-issues included within the main issue (versus a single-focus issue)
- Our current understanding of the issue. What are the requirements to bring enough information to the table to fully develop this strategy?
- Is addressing the issue in this way controversial in the public eye and will it require some sort of further collaborative public process or specific working group to resolve?

Criterion #3 – Short-Term Feasibility (resources needed to develop Action Plan)

Existing Staff	=	3
NewWorking Group	=	2
Additional Staffing	=	1

What is the ability of the program to use this strategy to address the issue during the next five years given existing resources: Can it be done with existing staff, through the establishment of a working group, or by externally contracting with another group/organization or adding staff time and resources? Are there enough resources to sufficiently address this issue in the in the next five years? Feasibility is directly related to complexity.

Criterion #4 – Long-Term Feasibility (resources needed for Implementation)

Existing Resources	=	3
Additional Resources	=	2
Major Resources	=	1

What makes it feasible to address an issue once the strategies are developed? Having the necessary people resources/skills, money/funding, infrastructure, and technical capability. What is the ability of the program to address this issue during the implementation phase: existing resources are currently available, additional resources are needed, major resources are needed.



Criterion #5 – Improving Coordination and Operations Between the Sites

Major	=	3
Moderate	=	2
Minor	=	1

Does using this strategy to address this issue have positive benefits to improving coordination and operations between the sites? If we make progress on this issue will it have major, moderate, or minimal benefits to improving coordination and operations between the sites?

Criterion #6 – Urgency

Develop Strategies	=	3
Develop Framework	=	2
Defer Action	=	1

What makes an issue “Urgent”? If the issue/problem is: adversely impacting resources, persistent, getting worse with time/deteriorating, increasing in frequency, wide spatial extent, non-reversible. What is the level of response/urgency needed for this issue: develop strategies to be implemented immediately, develop a framework for action in the management plan, defer any action until after the management plan has been completed.

Legislative Context – Purposes and Policies of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act

- 1) *to identify and designate as national marine sanctuaries areas of the marine environment which are of special national significance and to manage these areas as the National Marine Sanctuary System;*
- 2) *to provide authority for comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management of these marine areas, and activities affecting them, in a manner which complements existing regulatory authorities;*
- 3) *to maintain the natural biological communities in the national marine sanctuaries, and to protect, and, where appropriate, restore and enhance natural habitats, populations, and ecological processes;*
- 4) *to enhance public awareness, understanding, appreciation and wise and sustainable use of the marine environment, and the natural, historical, cultural, and archeological resources of the National Marine Sanctuary System;*
- 5) *to support, promote, and coordinate scientific research on, and long-term monitoring of, the resources of these marine areas*
- 6) *to facilitate to the extent compatible with the primary objective of resource protection, all public and private uses of the resources of these marine areas not prohibited pursuant to other authorities;*
- 7) *to develop and implement coordinated plans for the protection and management of these areas with appropriate Federal agencies, State and local governments, Native American tribes and organizations, international organizations, and other public and private interests concerned with the continuing health and resilience of these marine areas;*
- 8) *to create models of, and incentives for, ways to conserve and manage these areas, including the application of innovative management techniques; and*
- 9) *to cooperate with global programs encouraging conservation of marine resources.*